



Army Benefits Center - Civilian

SWCPOC at Fort Riley, Kansas

ABC-C News

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To reach the ABC-C: <https://www.abc.army.mil> or 1-877-276-9287 – (TDD 1-877-276-9833)

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Chief, Army Benefits Center-Civilian



Do You Know How Military Service Can Affect Your Civilian Retirement?

Have you served in the military? Did you know that you might be able to have that time count toward your retirement from the civilian workforce? The process of determining the amount of money you would have to pay to have this active duty time count is called Post-56 Military Deposit because it refers to military service performed after 1956.

If the characterization of your military service is honorable and you are currently covered by either the CSRS or FERS retirement systems, you may be eligible to make a deposit for the time you served in the military and have that time credited toward your retirement. This is an important decision in your career and it is important that you make this decision with the best information possible.

The process to determine if it is beneficial for you to pay for this time to be creditable begins with you.

- ★ Review the information on the ABC-C website to determine if you are eligible to pay for this time to be creditable. This can be found by going to the ABC-C Home Page at <https://www.abc.army.mil>. Select Information, then Retirement, then Information. Select either Post-56 Military Deposit-CSRS or Post-56 Military Deposit-FERS depending on your current retirement coverage.
- ★ If you are eligible, complete the form RI 20-97 and mail it to the military finance center identified on the ABC-C website. Prior to mailing the form you will need to attach a copy of your DD Form(s) 214. This form will be returned to you with your estimated earnings while in the military.

- ★ Upon return of the RI 20-97, complete either the SF2803 or SF3108 (depending on your retirement coverage) and forward the forms along with your DD Form(s) 214 to the ABC-C at the address indicated on the website.

- ★ Once the request is received in the ABC-C, a counselor will determine the amount of money required for you to pay for this time to count toward your civilian retirement. The ABC-C will complete an OPM Form 1514 and forward it to DFAS for completion.



- ★ Once DFAS has completed the form, you will receive a response from DFAS indicating the amount of money you are required to pay to have this time count toward your civilian retirement. There will be payment options on the letter as well.

- ★ Payment of the money to have your military time count is voluntary. Once you receive your response from DFAS, you simply decide whether or not to pay the required amount to get credit for that active duty time to count toward your retirement from the civilian workforce.



Designation of Beneficiaries



Do you have any idea how important it is for you to designate your beneficiaries for your benefits?

If you do not designate beneficiaries for your life insurance, retirement funds, unpaid compensation or Thrift Savings Plan account, these will be paid by law which may be very different from what you intend. Please take care of these designations if you have not already done so. Forms are available at the ABC-C website.

Do You Know How to Change Your Address?

If you have moved recently or you plan to move in the near future, you need to know how to change your address in your records.



You can change your address for your payroll records, TSP Records and benefits forms used at the ABC-C by visiting the DFAS web site at www.dfas.mil. If you currently view and/or print your LES at this site you already know how to log in. If you do not currently have a PIN for this site, go to the site and follow the prompts to receive your PIN.

Once you change your address, your LES will be mailed to your new address (if you still receive it through the mail). The information will also be forwarded to TSP for your TSP record. Your personnel records will also have the new address so that when you process transactions through the ABC-C, it will automatically be completed for you.

To change your address on your Health Benefits Plan, contact the carrier directly with the new information.



Attention Reservists!

Have you been placed on active duty in support of contingency operations? You need to visit the ABC-C website and click on the Uniformed Services button for information about your FEHB premiums while you are activated.

Click on the link titled "Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Premiums for DoD Civilian Active Duty in Support of Contingency Operation for information about your FEHB while you are on active duty. In addition to the information, there is a form to fill out if you are eligible and turn in to your servicing Civilian Personnel Operations Center

ABC-C Telephone Numbers - Overseas

Belgium	0800-78245
Germany	0800-1010282
Italy	800-780821
Japan	00531-1-20378
Korea	00798-14-800-4766
Netherlands	0800-0232739
Saudi Arabia	1-877-276-9287
United Kingdom	08-00857723

Did You Know?

Traditionally the end of the year is a busy time in the benefits area. This past year was no exception. Look at what happened:

- 2623 voluntary retirements
- 212 disability retirements
- 100 death actions
- 64 family member deaths
- 1117 retirement estimates
- 357 deposit/redeposit requests
- 628 post-56 requests



Also at the end of last year we had three open seasons, Federal Employee Health Benefits (FEHB), Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) and Long Term Care (LTC) which generated thousands of transactions and inquiries. Do you wonder what is going to happen this year in our every-changing world? Stay tuned.



On a Personal Note



It's been almost a year since I became the Chief of the Army Benefits Center-for Civilians. I appreciate the support you have provided to the ABC-C staff, which has made my job easier.

My ultimate goal is to make it easier for each of you to understand how Federal benefits affect your careers. The ABC-C staff and I stand ready to assist you in understanding and processing Federal benefits actions.

Let me know if this newsletter provides relevant and useful information. I am open to your comments and suggestions on how we may better provide service to our customers.

Are you planning retirement in the near future?

To allow sufficient time to receive your records and process your retirement, you need to submit your retirement package to the ABC-C at least 120 days before the date you plan on retiring.

ABC-C is a Division of SWCPOC, at Fort Riley KS

Send comments or suggestions to:

<mailto:NewsletterINQ@cpocswr.army.mil>